GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2186
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007
SETTING UP OF BTS IN BORDER AREAS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some private mobile phone companies have set up Base Terminal Station (BTS) close to the border areas by violating the licence policy which is likely to cause security threat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of BTS set up by the various mobile phone companies at sensitive areas close to the border till date;

(d) the names and other details of those companies, who have set up BTS without taking prior permission; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against these companies?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (e) Setting up of BTS within 10 Kms of International Border for provision of mobile service required specific permission from Department of Telecommunications (DOT). It was brought to the notice of DOT that some mobile service providers have setup their BTS within 10 Kms of International Border for provision of mobile service without specific permission. These cases are being examined as per the terms and conditions of the licence agreement that existed at the time of violation. While the matter is being examined, the conditions relating to provision of mobile services in areas falling within 10 Kms of International Border has been relaxed as per details given below:

(i) There shall be a "No Service Zone" of 500 Meters width along the International border within Indian territory for wireless/mobile service, where the Licensee(s) are not permitted to provide wireless/mobile service. The Licensee shall use requisite technology to ensure that the signals become unusable within 500 Meters of International boundaries and there shall be no wireless/mobile service in the "No Service Zone".

(ii) The Licensee shall create a "Buffer Zone" of 10 Kms width along the Line of Control (LOC), Line of Actual Control (LAC), Akhnoor and Pathankot areas in Jammu and Kashmir, as applicable, wherein they shall not deploy their Cell site(s)/BTS(s)/Radio Transmitter(s).